



Literacy Links: Resources for Teachers and Parents

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[Book Adventure](#)

Book Adventure is a free reading motivation program for children in grades K-8. Children create their own booklists from recommended titles, take multiple choice quizzes on the books they've read offline, and earn points and prizes for their literary successes.

[Bookhooks](#)

Bookhooks is a free online book reporting toolkit for students in grades K-12. Students can supplement their reports with illustrative material, and teachers can register to create reading groups for student accounts. Classroom resources are also available.

[Between the Lions](#)

This website is designed for parents and kids to surf together. Stories from the popular PBS show are posted online with links to associated games.

[Carol Hurst's Children's Literature Site](#)

This site is a collection of reviews of great books for kids, ideas of ways to use books in the classroom, and collections of books and activities about particular subjects, curriculum areas, themes, and professional topics.

[The Children's Book Council \(CBC\)](#)

A cosponsor with IRA of the Children's Choices project, CBC promotes the use and enjoyment of children's trade books and is the official sponsor of Young People's Poetry Week and National Children's Book Week.

[Children's Literacy Initiative \(CLI\)](#)

CLI works to enhance the opportunity for children from low-income families to enter school ready to learn and, once in

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school, to be successful in learning to read. CLI provides professional development for teachers of grades pre-K–2.

[A Compact for Reading](#)

A Compact for Reading is a written agreement among families, teachers, principals, and students to work together to help improve the reading skills of children in grades K-3. Online publications are designed to help Compact partners set reading goals and provide lessons and activities that allow children to accomplish these goals.

[Critical English Online](#)

Goals of this site include supporting teachers who aspire to be critically reflective practitioners and encouraging classroom-based research by English/literacy teachers. It provides free access to [English Teaching: Practice and Critique](#), an online, peer-reviewed journal which promotes theorising about English/literacy that is grounded in a range of contexts.

[Database of Award-Winning Children's Literature](#)

Searchable, comprehensive listing maintained by a librarian.

[Doucette Index: K-12 Literature-Based Teaching Ideas](#)

The Doucette Index provides access to books and websites that contain useful teaching suggestions related to books for children and young adults. The books indexed are those held by the [Doucette Library of Teaching Resources](#), but many are available in other libraries.

[ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication](#)

This clearinghouse of the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) provides educational materials, resources, coursework, and links for parents, teachers, and students on all aspects of literacy and reading.

[The Fire Escape](#)

Young adult author-teacher Mitali Perkins has put together a website centered on literature for and about young immigrants. Her goal is to give teens a safe place on the Web to reflect on life in the melting pot. Site features stories, contests for young writers, teaching ideas, and a fine group of links.

[International Children's Digital Library \(ICDL\)](#)

Imagine a world where a comprehensive library of international children's literature is available to all children across the globe. With participants from around the world, this 5-year research project is building an international collection of children's books that reflects both the diversity and quality of children's literature. Currently, the collection includes materials donated from 27 cultures in 15 languages.

[Language Australia National Resource Centre \(LANRC\)](#)

LANRC provides access to collections of languages, literacy, and cultures resources and makes available Commonwealth-funded language, literacy, and workplace materials.

[The League of Canadian Poets](#)

This site features information about Canadian poetry, hosts a bookstore for the same, and offers resources of interest. The League also hosts a website, <http://www.youngpoets.ca/>, which helps students and teachers share the joy of poetry.

[LEO: Literacy Education Online](#)

Handouts, advice, and practical information for a variety of issues related to writing papers for high school and college: help with online resources, citations, grammar, organization, thesis statements, etc.

[Library in the Sky](#)

Containing over 15,000 links to educational resources on the Internet, this site guides teachers, students, parents, librarians, and members of the community on their journeys through cyberspace.

[Literacy Connections](#)

A cooperative effort of literacy tutors, volunteers, and educators, this site offers a wealth of information on reading aloud, tutoring techniques, second-language literacy, and adult literacy.

[Merriam-Webster Online: The Language Center](#)

You can access the full text of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, Tenth Edition and *Collegiate Thesaurus*. Site links

take you to word games, the featured "Word of the Day", and scripts of National Public Radio's popular daily program "Word for the Wise."

[The Miss Rumphius Award](#)

The Miss Rumphius Award is presented by members of the RTEACHER mailing list (listserv) to educators who develop and share exceptional Internet resources for literacy and learning. An annotated list of links to award-winning websites is provided.

[National Education Association \(NEA\)](#)

NEA advances the cause of public education. Their website has a [section for parents](#) about how to get involved in and improve their child's education.

[National Literacy Trust](#)

This site provides help to those concerned with promoting literacy in the UK to work collaboratively.

www.parentbytes.com

An independent Australian website dedicated to promoting literacy in children. Offers feature articles, book reviews on Australian and international titles, community forum, and a growing bank of information.

[Penpal Club Sites](#)

There are several penpal organizations designed for kids to safely communicate with kids their own age from around the world. Look at [ePALS](#), [Keypals Club](#), [KidsCom](#), and [A Girl's World](#) for a start.

[Read Across America](#)

NEA's Read Across America program calls for every child in America to be reading in the company of a caring adult on March 2, Dr. Seuss's birthday.

[Reading Is Fundamental \(RIF\)](#)

RIF develops and delivers children's and family literacy programs that help prepare young children for reading and motivate school-age children to read. Through a national network of teachers, parents, and volunteers, RIF programs provide books and other

essential literacy resources to children, at no cost to them or their families.

[Reading Is Fundamental \(RIF\), UK](#)

RIF, UK, is a nonprofit organization that promotes literacy by providing opportunities for children to choose and keep new books at no cost to them or their families. RIF's website has activities for children of all ages about books and reading and advice for parents on helping their children with reading.

[Reading Recovery](#)

Reading Recovery is a short-term intervention of one-on-one tutoring for low-achieving first graders. The intervention is designed to be used as a supplement to good classroom teaching.

[Reading Rockets](#)

A project of WETA, the public broadcasting station in Washington, DC, this site provides detailed information about learning to read and strategies for supporting struggling readers at home, at school, and in the community. It offers news, practical information, expert advice, and resources for parents, teachers, tutors, child care providers, and policymakers.

[RIF Reading Planet](#)

RIF Reading Planet is a place where kids and families come together to explore the world of books. Grown-ups can browse through a universe of activities and ideas for motivating kids to read. Kids can post reviews of favorite books and participate in interactive games and activities.

[Spaghetti Book Club](#)

Book reviews written by kids for kids from grades K-6. The Spaghetti Book Club encourages kids' love for reading by giving them an opportunity to connect on a personal level with the books they are reading and then share their reactions, thoughts, and opinions with family members, friends, and kids around the world. Reviews can be located through title, author, or reviewer.

[TeachingBooks.net](#)

Provides access to Internet-based children's literature resources. A database of links is searchable by author, title, subject, and

grade. Curricular resources are available, as are video interviews of authors and illustrators. Sign-up is required and initially free. Eventual costs may be associated with the site's services.

[Wisconsin LEARNS](#)

A complete literacy resource to support teachers and families in teaching the process of reading. This site provides practical information, a list of resources, and links to other websites supporting educators and parents as they work with readers of all ages.

[Word Central](#)

Merriam-Webster's site just for kids features the "Daily Buzz Word", spelling bee quizzes, student dictionaries, and "Build Your Own Dictionary."

[Young Authors' Workshop](#)

Links to websites on all aspects of the writing process for kids, including places to publish their writing.

[YourKidsLibrary.com](#)

With the goal of reviewing every Newbery medalist and honor book back to 1922, David Ross of the *Press-Telegram* offers over 400 synopses (so far). The reviews include curricular ties and reading levels as well as anecdotal comments.

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